

South
Carolina's

Employment Trends

AUGUST 1992

Nonfarm Employment Rebounds...

South Carolina's total nonfarm employment rebounded in August with an addition of 7,100 jobs, reaching 1,489,000. Private sector employment led the advance with 6,000 jobs keyed by a 3,800- gain in manufacturing. Government also experienced a hike of 1,100 positions, centered in education. Total nonfarm female employment, on the strength of a large percentage of women employed in manufacturing and educational jobs, rose 3,100 to 723,800. August total nonfarm employment, however, was down 1.2% or 17,900 from a year earlier. The state's unemployment rate shrank to 6.4% from 6.7% in July and remained well below the national figure of 7.6% for August.

Manufacturing Employees Return From Temporary Layoffs...

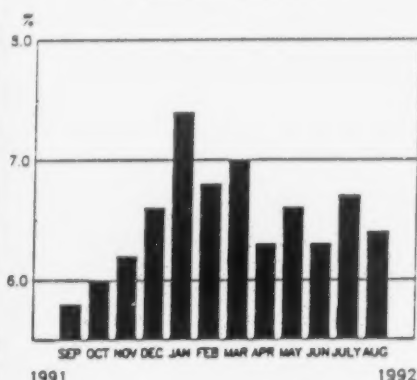
In manufacturing, recails from layoffs pushed employment to 364,900. Durable goods accounted for 3,600, or 95%, of the growth; while a gain of 200 occurred in the soft-good sector. The state's manufacturing workweek, at 42.1 hours, up from 41.6 in July, was at its highest level since December 1987. Average hourly earnings also rose \$0.05 to \$9.54. Nationally, the manufacturing workweek increased 0.4 hour to 41.1 hours while average hourly earnings edged down \$0.01 to \$11.45. Productivity at South Carolina's factories climbed 2.2 points to 100.5 in August, led by a 4.5- point surge in output in the hard-good sector. Productivity also increased 1.0 point in the manufacturing of nondurable goods.

In the trade sector, employment gains of 1,100 at retail establishments accounted for the entire August upturn and pushed the trade job count to 337,800. Within retail trade, general merchandise stores, eating and drinking places, and food stores all experienced solid increases. The service sector expanded 900 to an all-time high of 306,900 and was 5,100 above the year-ago level. Business services and health services were the main contributors to growth. Construction jobs rose 600 to 80,000 during the month as building activities flickered with signs of revival. Special trade contractors and electrical workers benefited with advances of 300 and 200, respectively. Transportation and public utilities employers reported an addition of 500 workers in August. Employment in finance, insurance, and real estate dropped 800 during the month as bank mergers produced cuts totaling 700 at depository institutions.

Seasonal Expansion In Government...

In the public sector, state and local government added a total of 1,200 positions signaling the start of seasonal educational expansions. State and local schools registered increases of 600 and 1,300, respectively. Other state government was up 100 while local government jobs decreased 800 with the curtailment of summer youth employment. Federal jobs fell 100 in August to 35,800.

South Carolina's
Unemployment Rates
(Seasonally Adjusted)



South Carolina's Employment Trends is produced monthly by the Labor Market Information (LMI) Division of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor. Please direct questions or comments to the Labor Market Information Division, (803) 737-2660.

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Outlook...

South Carolina's economy is expected to exhibit strong seasonal expansion in educational employment in September. Service personnel returning for the new academic year, including teachers, bus drivers and cafeteria workers, will be a driving force behind the growth in government. The private sector should experience a seasonal downturn as tourism begins to taper off.

For your information...

The 1992 edition of **South Carolina's Labor Force and Industry** is now available from the Labor Market Information Division of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission. This publication includes annual average labor force statistics and nonagricultural employment levels by industry for the most recent available six years. The data are presented for the state, MSA's and counties. The publication can be purchased at a cost of \$4.00. To obtain a copy, write to S. C. Employment Security Commission, Labor Market Information Division, P.O. Box 995, Columbia, SC 29202 or call (803) 737-2660.

Civilian Labor Force Summary August 1992

	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
United States (seas. adj.)			
Civilian Labor Force	127,437,000	127,532,000	125,004,000
Total Employment	117,737,000	117,772,000	116,484,000
Total Unemployment	9,700,000	9,760,000	8,520,000
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.6	7.7	7.8
South Carolina (seas. adj.)			
Civilian Labor Force	1,796,400	1,802,500	1,746,400
Total Employment	1,682,300	1,681,600	1,635,300
Total Unemployment	114,100	120,900	111,100
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.4	6.7	6.4
Greenville-Spartanburg MSA			
Civilian Labor Force	355,430	359,730	347,010
Total Employment	338,250	340,040	329,230
Total Unemployment	17,170	19,700	17,780
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.8	5.5	5.1
Columbia MSA			
Civilian Labor Force	252,500	256,200	248,250
Total Employment	240,570	243,510	236,910
Total Unemployment	11,930	12,680	11,340
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	5.0	4.6
Charleston MSA			
Civilian Labor Force	255,480	259,010	248,830
Total Employment	241,320	243,440	236,690
Total Unemployment	14,160	15,570	12,140
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.5	6.0	4.9

Labor Force and Unemployment for Selected Cities in South Carolina

August 1992

City	Labor Force			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
Anderson	13,860	14,010	13,390	970	1,210	1,060	7.0	8.7	7.9
Charleston	42,000	42,550	40,870	2,410	2,610	2,040	5.7	6.1	5.0
Columbia	49,690	50,430	48,780	3,040	3,210	2,840	6.1	6.4	5.8
Florence	16,740	17,050	16,200	1,050	1,190	950	6.2	7.0	5.9
Goose Creek	7,480	7,610	7,260	420	490	340	5.6	6.4	4.7
Greenville	35,870	36,290	35,030	2,060	2,290	2,110	5.7	6.3	6.0
Mt. Pleasant	9,830	9,930	9,600	280	310	240	2.9	3.1	2.5
Myrtle Beach	15,390	15,640	14,640	590	650	530	3.8	4.2	3.6
North Charleston	25,330	25,720	24,540	2,240	2,430	1,900	8.8	9.5	7.7
Rock Hill	24,390	24,760	23,530	1,670	1,900	1,570	6.8	7.7	6.7
Spartanburg	24,460	24,700	23,820	1,470	1,600	1,450	6.0	6.5	6.1
Sumter	12,580	12,650	12,090	970	1,060	1,130	7.7	8.4	9.3



**Labor Force and Unemployment in South Carolina
by County and Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)
August 1992**

County	Labor Force			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
Abbeville	10,990	11,560	10,680	1,020	920	750	9.3	8.0	7.0
Aiken	72,950	74,240	70,240	4,050	4,430	3,390	5.6	6.0	4.8
Allendale	5,870	6,110	5,710	530	740	520	9.1	12.1	9.1
Anderson MSA	71,810	72,280	69,240	3,890	4,840	4,240	5.4	6.7	6.1
Bamberg	6,970	7,030	6,800	660	650	790	9.5	9.2	11.6
Barnwell	9,510	9,690	9,070	1,140	1,280	1,200	12.0	13.2	13.2
Beaufort	40,730	41,340	39,290	1,620	1,770	1,410	4.0	4.3	3.6
Berkeley	57,970	58,930	56,360	3,010	3,480	2,450	5.2	5.9	4.3
Calhoun	4,700	4,790	4,510	390	470	510	8.3	9.9	11.3
Charleston	157,020	159,100	152,780	9,230	10,010	7,820	5.9	6.3	5.1
Cherokee	23,470	23,650	22,750	1,440	1,800	1,570	6.1	7.6	6.9
Chester	14,220	14,490	14,030	1,610	1,780	1,930	11.3	12.3	13.8
Chesterfield	21,470	21,800	20,450	1,180	1,410	1,200	5.5	6.5	5.9
Clarendon	11,670	11,880	11,510	1,200	1,350	1,310	10.3	11.3	11.4
Colleton	17,030	17,310	16,590	1,450	1,520	1,430	8.5	8.8	8.6
Darlington	29,580	30,060	28,300	2,730	3,050	2,360	9.2	10.2	8.3
Dillon	14,450	14,050	14,010	1,220	1,390	1,450	8.4	9.9	10.3
Dorchester	40,480	40,980	39,690	1,920	2,080	1,870	4.7	5.1	4.7
Edgefield	6,910	6,960	6,750	520	550	320	7.5	7.9	4.7
Fairfield	9,870	10,020	9,780	830	950	990	8.5	9.4	10.1
Florence MSA	60,770	61,910	58,800	4,020	4,580	3,640	6.6	7.4	6.2
Georgetown	24,560	23,980	22,460	1,740	1,830	1,600	7.1	7.6	7.1
Greenville	184,420	186,370	179,980	8,840	9,860	9,080	4.8	5.3	5.0
Greenwood	29,560	29,940	28,620	2,090	2,250	2,000	7.1	7.5	7.0
Hampton	7,400	7,660	7,260	730	720	720	9.8	9.4	9.9
Horry	84,980	86,510	80,750	4,640	5,140	4,150	5.5	5.9	5.1
Jasper	6,640	6,600	6,400	390	440	300	5.9	6.6	4.7
Kershaw	20,660	21,080	20,240	1,840	1,980	1,710	8.9	9.4	8.4
Lancaster	26,650	27,020	26,250	2,540	2,620	2,460	9.5	9.7	9.4
Laurens	25,410	25,550	24,680	1,650	1,780	1,500	6.5	7.0	6.1
Lee	9,460	9,270	8,950	790	760	590	8.3	8.2	6.6
Lexington	100,830	102,310	99,260	4,140	4,450	4,050	4.1	4.3	4.1
McCormick	3,050	3,080	3,050	310	320	350	10.3	10.4	11.5
Marion	15,300	15,560	15,320	1,600	1,990	2,070	10.4	12.8	13.5
Marlboro	11,810	11,700	11,950	1,120	1,170	1,270	9.5	10.0	10.6
Newberry	15,590	15,620	14,830	1,300	1,390	880	8.3	8.9	5.9
Oconee	29,500	30,040	29,030	1,960	2,200	2,210	6.6	7.3	7.6
Orangeburg	41,350	39,890	40,620	3,450	3,750	4,210	8.3	9.4	10.4
Pickens	51,440	52,710	50,590	2,330	3,330	2,780	4.5	6.3	5.5
Richland	151,680	153,880	148,990	7,790	8,230	7,290	5.1	5.4	4.9
Saluda	9,530	9,720	8,960	530	520	400	5.6	5.3	4.5
Spartanburg	119,560	120,660	116,440	6,010	6,500	5,910	5.0	5.4	5.1
Sumter	41,450	41,690	39,820	3,110	3,400	3,630	7.5	8.1	9.1
Union	14,280	14,560	13,900	1,170	1,290	1,210	8.2	8.8	8.7
Williamsburg	17,380	17,660	16,810	1,380	1,590	1,350	7.9	9.0	8.0
York	76,410	77,460	73,730	4,410	5,020	4,160	5.8	6.5	5.6
Charleston MSA	255,480	259,010	248,830	14,160	15,570	12,140	5.5	6.0	4.9
Columbia MSA	252,500	256,200	248,250	11,930	12,680	11,340	4.7	5.0	4.6
Greenville MSA	355,430	359,730	347,010	17,170	19,700	17,780	4.8	5.5	5.1
South Carolina (seas. adj.)	1,796.4	1,802.5	1,746.4	114.1	120.9	111.1	6.4	6.7	6.4

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in South Carolina August 1992

	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Net Changes From:	
				July 1992	Aug 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,489,000	1,481,900	1,506,900	+7,100	-17,900
Total Private	1,221,300	1,215,300	1,239,400	+6,000	-18,100
Mining	1,700	1,800	1,800	-100	-100
Construction	80,000	79,400	88,500	+600	-8,500
Heavy Construction, Excluding Building	9,500	9,500	11,200	0	-1,700
Highway and Street Construction	2,700	2,700	2,900	0	-200
Heavy Construction, Excluding Highway	6,800	6,800	8,300	0	-1,500
Special Trade Contractors	42,300	42,000	45,400	+300	-3,100
Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning	10,100	10,200	11,000	-100	-900
Electrical Work	10,000	9,800	10,500	+200	-500
Manufacturing	364,900	361,100	367,800	+3,800	-2,700
Durable Goods	128,500	124,900	130,100	+3,600	-1,600
Lumber and Wood Products	13,700	13,600	14,200	+100	-500
Sawmills and Planing Mills	4,300	4,300	4,600	0	-300
Millwork, Plywood, and Structural Members	2,900	2,800	3,200	+100	-300
Furniture and Fixtures	4,200	4,100	4,000	+100	+200
Household Furniture	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	+100
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	9,100	9,100	9,500	0	-400
Glass and Glassware, Pressed or Blown	3,100	3,100	3,300	0	-200
Concrete, Gypsum, and Plaster Products	2,200	2,300	2,500	-100	-300
Primary Metal Industries	9,000	9,000	8,800	0	+200
Fabricated Metal Products	16,400	15,700	16,400	+700	0
Cutlery, Hand Tools, and Hardware	2,400	1,600	2,400	+800	0
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	6,000	6,100	6,100	-100	-100
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	35,400	33,500	35,800	+1,900	-400
Metalworking Machinery	6,000	5,800	6,400	+400	-400
Special Industry Machinery	5,600	5,500	5,500	+100	+100
General Industrial Machinery	7,300	7,300	7,400	0	-100
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	21,200	20,700	22,100	+500	-900
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	2,000	2,000	2,300	0	-300
Household Appliances	3,500	3,400	3,300	+100	+200
Electronic Components and Accessories	7,000	7,000	7,300	0	-300
Transportation Equipment	10,100	9,900	10,000	+200	+100
Instruments and Related Products	5,500	5,500	5,700	0	-200
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	3,900	3,800	3,600	+100	+300
Nondurable Goods	236,400	236,200	237,500	+200	-1,100
Food and Kindred Products	14,500	14,300	14,500	+200	0
Meat Products	5,500	5,500	5,300	0	+200
Beverages	2,100	2,100	2,300	0	-200
Textile Mill Products	91,000	90,600	92,700	+400	-1,700
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	22,100	22,200	23,900	-100	-1,800
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	22,600	22,600	22,900	0	-300
Knitting Mills	7,100	7,000	7,000	+100	+100
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	15,000	14,600	14,800	+400	+200
Finishing Plants, Cotton	7,600	7,600	7,500	0	+100
Finishing Plants, Manmade	6,600	6,300	6,500	+300	+100
Yarn and Thread Mills	9,900	9,900	9,900	0	0
Yarn Spinning Mills	9,200	9,200	9,300	0	-100
Miscellaneous Textile Goods	7,100	7,000	7,100	+100	0
Apparel and Other Textile Products	35,900	36,100	37,100	-200	-1,200
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	9,500	9,600	9,300	-100	+200
Men's and Boys' Shirts	5,100	5,300	5,300	-200	-200
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	10,600	10,800	11,600	-200	-1,000
Women's and Misses' Blouses and Shirts	3,100	3,100	3,400	0	-300
Women's and Children's Undergarments	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	-100
Girls and Children's Outerwear	1,600	1,700	2,000	-100	-400
Miscellaneous Apparel and Accessories	2,200	2,100	2,000	+100	+200
Miscellaneous Fabricated Textile Products	9,300	9,300	9,500	0	-200

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in South Carolina (continued)

	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Net Changes From:	
				July 1992	Aug 1991
Paper and Allied Products	17,800	17,900	17,500	-100	+300
Paperboard Mills	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	+100
Paperboard Containers and Boxes	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0
Miscellaneous Converted Paper Products	4,900	4,900	4,800	0	+100
Printing and Publishing	11,300	11,400	11,500	-100	-200
Newspapers	4,200	4,300	4,300	-100	-100
Commercial Printing	4,700	4,800	4,700	-100	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	41,900	41,900	40,300	0	+1,600
Plastics Materials and Synthetics	15,200	15,200	15,000	0	+200
Industrial Organic Chemicals	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	+200
Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products	22,900	22,900	23,100	0	-200
Fabricated Rubber Products, Not Elsewhere Classified	2,900	2,800	2,900	+100	0
Misc. Plastics Products, Not Elsewhere Classified	10,100	10,100	10,100	0	0
Transportation and Public Utilities	64,500	64,000	65,400	+500	-900
Trucking and Warehousing	19,600	19,500	19,900	-300	-300
Water Transportation	3,400	3,200	3,700	+200	-300
Communications	13,100	13,100	13,500	0	-400
Telephone Communications	8,600	8,600	9,000	0	-400
Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services	16,400	16,200	16,000	+200	+400
Electric Services	9,300	9,200	9,200	+100	+100
Combination Utility Services	4,300	4,300	4,300	0	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	337,800	336,700	347,100	+1,100	-9,300
Wholesale Trade	57,400	57,400	59,200	0	-1,800
Wholesale Trade—Durable Goods	31,300	31,300	32,400	0	-1,100
Machinery, Equipment, and Supplies	8,900	9,000	9,300	-100	-400
Wholesale Trade—Nondurable Goods	26,100	26,100	26,800	0	-700
Groceries and Related Products	8,800	3,800	9,200	0	-400
Groceries, General Line	4,500	4,500	4,300	0	+200
Petroleum and Petroleum Products	3,700	3,700	3,300	0	+400
Retail Trade	280,400	279,300	287,900	+1,100	-7,500
Building Materials and Garden Supplies	11,300	11,300	11,500	0	-200
Lumber and Other Building Materials	6,700	6,600	6,300	+100	+400
General Merchandise Stores	34,400	33,900	35,300	+500	-900
Food Stores	53,600	53,400	52,200	+200	+1,400
Grocery Stores	50,600	50,500	49,000	+100	+1,600
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	65,500	66,300	67,200	-800	-1,700
Depository Institutions	21,600	22,300	22,700	-700	-1,100
Commercial Banks	14,600	15,200	15,600	-600	-1,000
National Commercial Banks	9,000	9,000	9,200	0	-200
Insurance Carriers	13,300	13,200	13,300	+100	0
Life Insurance	5,400	5,300	5,400	+100	0
Services	306,900	306,000	301,800	+900	+5,100
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	24,800	24,800	26,300	0	-1,500
Health Services	65,300	65,000	62,900	+300	+2,400
Nursing and Personal Care Facilities	12,500	12,400	12,100	+100	+400
Hospitals	23,500	23,400	22,300	+100	+1,200
Educational Services	22,300	22,200	21,900	+100	+400
Colleges and Universities	11,800	12,000	12,600	-200	-800
Total Government	267,700	266,600	267,500	+1,100	+200
Total Federal Government	35,600	35,900	38,100	-100	-2,300
Total State and Local Government	231,900	230,700	229,400	+1,200	+2,500
Total State Government	97,500	96,800	97,500	+700	0
State Government Education	37,900	37,300	38,700	+600	-800
Other State Government	59,600	59,500	58,800	+100	+800
Total Local Government	134,400	133,900	131,900	+500	+2,500
Local Government Education	63,200	61,900	63,800	+1,300	-600
Other Local Government	71,200	72,000	68,100	-800	+3,100



**Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment
in South Carolina
August 1992**

	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Net Change From:	
				July 1992	Aug 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,493,900	1,489,900	1,511,800	+4,000	-17,900
Total Private	1,206,600	1,201,700	1,224,700	+4,900	-18,100
Construction	79,000	78,700	87,300	+300	-8,300
Manufacturing	364,000	361,100	366,700	+2,900	-2,700
Durable Goods	128,100	124,900	129,700	+3,200	-1,600
Lumber and Wood Products	13,600	13,500	14,100	+100	-500
Furniture and Fixtures	4,200	4,100	4,000	+100	+200
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	9,100	9,100	9,500	0	-400
Primary Metal Industries	8,900	8,900	8,700	0	+200
Fabricated Metal Products	16,400	15,700	16,400	+700	0
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	35,500	33,700	35,900	+1,800	-400
Special Industry Machinery	5,600	5,500	5,500	+100	+100
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	21,000	20,800	21,900	+200	-900
Nondurable Goods	235,900	236,200	237,000	-300	-1,100
Food and Kindred Products	14,400	14,300	14,400	+100	0
Textile Mill Products	91,100	90,900	92,800	+200	-1,700
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	22,100	22,200	23,900	-100	-1,800
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	22,700	22,700	23,000	0	-300
Knitting Mills	7,000	6,900	6,900	+100	+100
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	15,100	14,700	14,900	+400	+200
Yarn and Thread Mills	9,900	10,000	9,900	-100	0
Apparel and Other Textile Products	35,900	36,300	37,100	-400	-1,200
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	9,400	9,600	9,200	-200	+200
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	10,700	10,900	11,700	-200	-1,000
Miscellaneous Fabricated Textile Products	9,300	9,400	9,500	-100	-200
Paper and Allied Products	17,700	17,700	17,400	0	+300
Printing and Publishing	11,200	11,300	11,400	-100	-200
Chemicals and Allied Products	41,700	41,600	40,100	+100	+1,600
Plastic Materials and Synthetics	15,000	15,000	14,800	0	+200
Transportation and Public Utilities	64,000	63,800	64,900	+200	-900
Trucking and Warehousing	19,400	19,500	19,700	-100	-300
Communication	13,000	13,000	13,400	0	-400
Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services	16,300	16,200	15,900	+100	+400
Wholesale and Retail Trade	330,300	329,500	339,600	+800	-9,300
Wholesale Trade	56,800	56,900	58,600	-100	-1,800
Retail Trade	273,500	272,600	281,000	+900	-7,500
General Merchandise Stores	35,000	34,700	35,900	+300	-900
Food Stores	52,700	52,200	51,300	+500	+1,400
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	64,100	64,900	65,700	-800	-1,600
Insurance Carriers	13,100	13,000	13,100	+100	0
Services	303,500	301,900	298,500	+1,600	+5,000
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	22,200	22,200	23,600	0	-1,400
Educational Services	25,600	25,400	25,100	+200	+500
Total Government	287,300	288,200	287,300	-900	0
Total Federal Government	35,500	35,400	37,800	+100	-2,300
Total State Government	101,400	101,200	101,400	+200	0
Total Local Government	150,400	151,600	147,600	-1,200	+2,800

**Estimated Number of Manufacturing Production Workers Employment
and Average Hours and Earnings in South Carolina
August 1992**

Manufacturing Production Workers Employment					
	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Net Change From:	
				July 1992	Aug 1991
Manufacturing	273,400	270,700	276,500	+2,700	+3,100
Durable Goods	95,400	92,800	96,900	+2,600	-1,500
Lumber and Wood Products	11,100	11,100	11,500	0	-400
Furniture and Fixtures	2,800	2,700	2,700	+100	+100
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	7,100	7,100	7,500	0	-400
Fabricated Metal Products	11,300	10,800	11,300	+500	0
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	25,800	24,500	26,200	+1,300	-400
Special Industry Machinery	3,700	3,700	3,700	0	0
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	16,000	15,600	16,700	+400	-700
Instruments and Related Products	4,200	4,300	4,400	-100	-200
Nondurable Goods	178,000	177,900	179,600	+100	-1,600
Food and Kindred Products	10,200	10,000	10,100	+200	+100
Textile Mill Products	78,000	77,700	79,600	+300	-1,600
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	20,400	20,500	22,100	-100	-1,700
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	19,700	19,700	19,900	0	-200
Knitting Mills	6,200	6,100	6,200	+100	0
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	12,000	11,700	12,100	+300	-100
Yarn and Thread Mills	8,600	8,600	8,400	0	+200
Apparel and Other Textile Products	29,500	29,800	30,600	-300	-1,100
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	8,500	8,600	8,300	-100	+200
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	8,600	8,700	9,400	-100	-800
Paper and Allied Products	12,100	12,300	11,900	-200	+200
Printing and Publishing	6,000	6,100	6,000	-100	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	24,300	24,300	23,400	0	+900

	Average Weekly Earnings (\$)			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings (\$)		
	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
Manufacturing	401.63	394.78	381.71	42.1	41.6	41.4	9.54	9.49	9.22
Durable Goods	420.01	413.45	393.12	43.3	42.8	42.0	9.70	9.56	9.36
Lumber and Wood Products	342.03	335.86	323.33	42.7	42.3	41.4	8.01	7.94	7.81
Furniture and Fixtures	315.19	301.91	286.71	43.0	41.7	40.9	7.33	7.24	7.01
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	444.88	444.70	432.78	41.5	41.6	41.1	10.72	10.69	10.53
Fabricated Metal Products	408.87	409.76	390.29	41.3	41.6	41.3	9.90	9.85	9.45
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	459.98	448.42	422.30	44.4	43.2	42.7	10.36	10.38	9.89
Special Industry Machinery	456.88	452.17	442.88	44.4	43.9	44.2	10.29	10.30	10.02
Electronic and Other Elect. Equip.	393.64	384.14	378.63	43.4	42.4	42.4	9.07	9.06	8.93
Instruments and Related Products	386.10	402.75	380.56	42.9	44.8	44.2	9.00	8.99	8.61
Nondurable Goods	381.23	384.99	375.65	41.4	41.0	41.1	9.45	9.39	9.14
Food and Kindred Products	349.75	331.68	328.80	42.6	41.1	40.0	8.21	8.07	8.22
Textile Mill Products	369.05	363.85	348.43	41.7	41.3	40.8	8.85	8.81	8.54
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	374.26	386.21	356.13	41.4	40.6	40.7	9.04	9.02	8.75
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	384.58	384.58	356.51	41.0	41.0	39.7	9.38	9.38	8.98
Knitting Mills	317.10	313.50	286.83	42.0	41.6	39.4	7.55	7.50	7.26
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	376.85	376.09	371.88	42.2	42.4	42.5	8.93	8.87	8.75
Yarn and Thread Mills	326.90	318.76	311.13	41.2	40.4	41.1	7.92	7.89	7.57
Apparel and Other Textile Products	243.70	241.92	233.63	37.9	37.6	37.5	6.43	6.40	6.23
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	260.74	253.34	235.31	40.3	39.4	38.2	6.47	6.43	6.16
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	205.53	200.56	209.99	36.9	36.4	37.7	5.57	5.51	5.57
Paper and Allied Products	613.80	612.86	602.88	45.5	45.6	45.5	13.49	13.44	13.25
Printing and Publishing	395.41	381.20	371.33	39.7	38.7	38.4	9.96	9.85	9.67
Chemicals and Allied Products	521.66	511.29	502.90	41.8	41.3	41.7	12.48	12.38	12.06



Agricultural News

Seasonal Labor...

Approximately 1,789 seasonal farmworkers were employed throughout South Carolina in August.

Weather Conditions...

Rain and scattered thunderstorms prevailed throughout the state in August, with some brief periods of clear weather. Although these conditions hampered most harvesting activities, they sustained soil moisture conditions. By the week ending August 30, 1992, soil moisture ratings were 9 percent short, 87 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. An average of 4.8 days per week were available for fieldwork activities.

Field Crops...

Cotton bolls were opening on 12 percent of the acreage, behind the normal pace for the period, with the crop conditions rated as 1 percent poor, 87 percent fair, and 12 percent good. Tobacco harvesting remained ahead of normal with 84 percent of the crop harvested, and the crop condition was rated as fair to good. Corn harvesting continued slightly behind the normal rate, at 32 percent, and the crop condition was rated as fair to good. Sorghum harvesting was at the normal pace, 23 percent, and the crop condition was rated as fair to good. Soybean pods continued setting ahead of normal, at 72 percent, with the crop condition rated as 54 percent fair and 46 percent good.

Fruits and Vegetables...

Peach harvesting was nearing completion at 94 percent, slightly behind the normal pace, with the crop condition rated as poor to fair. Cantaloupe harvesting was behind the normal pace, with 88 percent of the crop harvested. The condition of the crop was fair to good.

Small Grains and Pastures... Pastures statewide remained in fair to good condition. Harvesting of the fall hay crop continued ahead of the normal pace and the condition was fair to good.

South Carolina Weekly Crop Statistics
Week Ending August 30, 1992

Crop	Phase	Percent Completed(%)	
		Current	Year Ago
Apples	Harvested	19	39
Cantaloupes	Harvested	88	94
Corn	Mature	95	97
Corn	Harvested	32	36
Cotton	Open Bolls	12	25
Fall Hay	Harvested	55	49
Peaches	Harvested	94	97
Sorghum	Harvested	23	23
Soybeans	Blooming	92	92
Soybeans	Set Pods	72	57
Soybeans	Leaves Turning	3	4
Sweet Potatoes	Harvested	8	31
Tobacco	Harvested	84	86
Tobacco	Stalks Destroyed	24	22
Winter Grazing	Planted	3	5



Metropolitan Statistical Area News

Summary

Total nonfarm employment in the state's three major metropolitan statistical areas managed to reclaim 1,500 jobs in August, after incurring losses over the two previous months. The upturn was concentrated in the Greenville-Spartanburg MSA, where job gains were more than enough to offset continued declines in the Columbia area. The trade industry benefited most, producing two thirds of the gain. Construction and services each expanded 600, while manufacturing industries added 400. Finance, insurance, and real estate lost 400 workers, and government retracted 700.

Charleston MSA

(includes Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester counties)

Except for the public sector (+600), employment levels in the Charleston area experienced little movement over the month. Retail businesses added 300 jobs in trade, but transportation and public utilities; and finance, insurance, and real estate each shaved 100 from their ranks. Construction and services remained flat over the period. Total nonfarm employment was up 800 from July.

Berkeley County's unemployment rate was down more than half of a point, to 5.2%. Charleston and Dorchester counties' rates each dropped 0.4 percentage point, to 5.9% and 4.7%, respectively. As a result of these declines, the area's unemployment rate fell to 5.5% in August.

Columbia MSA

(includes Lexington and Richland counties)

The completion of summer work programs caused Columbia to lose 1,500 jobs in August. This drop followed cutbacks that had already taken the area's total employment to a yearly low in July. The public sector (-1,700) bore the brunt of the reduction although manufacturing (-200); and finance, insurance, and real estate (-300) shared the burden. On the positive side, construction, trade, and services contributed 100, 200, and 400 workers to the job pool, respectively.

In spite of the drop in employment levels, the area's unemployment rate was down from 5.0% in July, to 4.7% in August. Lexington County's rate dropped from 4.3% to 4.1%, and Richland County's jobless rate fell from 5.4% to 5.1%.

Greenville-Spartanburg MSA

(includes Greenville, Pickens, and Spartanburg counties)

The Greenville-Spartanburg area posted the largest gain of the three metro areas, picking up 2,200 jobs in August. Every industrial sector, except finance, insurance, and real estate which held constant at the July level, experienced at least some growth. Special trade contractors claimed credit for much of the 500 increase in construction. Increased orders and returns from layoffs pushed manufacturing employment up 500, and more business in retail establishments boosted the trade industry by 500. Service-related jobs grew 200. State and local government caused public sector employment to rise 400 as schools began restaffing for the fall term.

Reflecting the mounting employment levels, the unemployment rate for the MSA dropped 0.7 percentage point, to 4.8%. Within the MSA, Greenville County posted a jobless rate of 4.8%, down from 5.3%, while Spartanburg County's rate dropped from 5.4% to 5.0%. Pickens County's rate dropped almost 2 full points, from 6.3% to 4.5%.



**Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment
in the Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas
August 1992**

	Greenville-Spartanburg			Columbia			Charleston		
	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	324,200	322,000	325,000	235,300	236,800	237,800	206,100	205,300	206,800
Total Private	284,700	282,900	286,000	176,500	176,300	177,100	152,000	151,800	153,500
Construction and Mining	22,400	21,900	23,200	12,300	12,200	12,900	12,900	12,900	13,900
Special Trade Contractors	11,000	10,700	11,000						
Manufacturing	93,700	93,200	94,600	25,800	26,000	26,800	20,500	20,400	20,900
Durable Goods	32,800	32,500	32,700	11,700	11,800	12,400	11,400	11,300	11,500
Lumber and Wood Products	1,400	1,300	1,300	600	600	700	1,900	1,900	2,000
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products							800	800	900
Primary Metal Industries and Fabricated Metal Products	6,200	6,000	5,900	3,600	3,700	4,000	2,100	2,100	2,100
Industrial Machinery and Equip.	13,300	13,100	13,200	2,800	2,800	3,100	2,700	2,700	2,700
Metalworking Machinery	2,500	2,200	2,600						
Special Industry Machinery	3,800	3,800	4,000						
Computer and Office Equipment				1,100	1,100	1,300			
Transportation Equipment							2,000	1,900	2,000
Electronic and Other Electric Equip.	6,300	6,300	6,800	2,000	2,000	1,900			
Nondurable Goods	60,900	60,700	61,900	14,100	14,200	14,400	9,100	9,100	9,400
Food and Kindred Products	2,200	2,100	2,400	1,400	1,400	1,500			
Textile Mill Products	28,100	28,100	28,000	1,800	1,800	1,700	2,200	2,300	2,400
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	9,100	9,100	9,100						
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Man.	7,100	7,100	7,000						
Knitting Mills	1,100	1,100	1,200						
Textile Finishing, except Wool	2,900	3,000	3,000						
Carpets and Rugs	1,900	1,900	2,000						
Yarn and Thread Mills	2,700	2,700	2,600						
Apparel and Other Textile Products	5,100	5,200	6,100	1,400	1,500	1,600			
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	600	600	600						
Women's and Children's Outer and Underwear	2,100	2,200	2,800						
Paper and Allied Products	4,900	4,900	5,100	2,200	2,200	2,100	1,900	1,800	1,900
Misc. Converted Paper Products	3,600	3,600	3,600						
Printing and Publishing				2,500	2,500	2,500			
Chemicals and Allied Products	7,900	7,800	7,900	2,700	2,700	2,700	1,900	1,800	1,800
Plastics Materials and Synthetics	4,100	4,100	4,100						
Transportation and Public Utilities	14,000	13,900	14,300	10,800	10,800	11,300	10,500	10,600	11,200
Communications				3,200	3,200	3,600			
Wholesale and Retail Trade	79,200	78,700	77,900	55,500	55,300	55,300	50,400	50,100	51,700
Wholesale Trade	18,400	18,300	18,700	13,000	13,000	13,100	7,900	7,900	8,400
Retail Trade	60,800	60,400	59,200	42,500	42,300	42,200	42,500	42,200	43,300
General Merchandise Stores	7,100	6,900	6,700	5,600	5,700	5,700			
Food Stores				6,600	6,600	6,200			
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	12,600	12,600	12,500	18,800	20,100	20,000	7,500	7,600	7,700
Insurance Carriers				6,700	6,700	6,200			
Services	62,800	62,600	63,500	52,300	51,900	50,800	50,200	50,200	48,100
Health Services	12,900	12,900	12,700	10,600	10,600	10,300			
Hospitals	4,100	4,000	3,900						
Membership Organizations				3,500	3,600	3,300			
Total Government	39,500	39,100	39,000	58,800	60,500	60,700	54,100	53,500	53,300
Total Federal Government	2,100	2,100	2,100	8,200	8,300	8,300	16,800	16,800	18,200
Total State and Local Government	37,400	37,000	36,900	50,600	52,200	52,400	37,300	36,700	35,100
Total State Government	12,700	12,400	13,200	33,900	34,900	35,300	19,200	18,800	16,600
Total Local Government	24,700	24,600	23,700	16,700	17,300	17,100	18,100	17,900	18,500

**Estimated Number of Manufacturing Production Workers
and Average Hours and Earnings in Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas
August 1992**

	Number of Production Workers			Average Hours Worked Per Week			Average Weekly Earnings (Dollars)			Average Hourly Earnings (Dollars)		
	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
Greenville-Spartanburg												
Manufacturing	71,500	71,100	71,400	41.9	41.8	41.2	405.59	403.79	381.51	9.68	9.66	9.26
Durable Goods	23,300	23,100	23,300	44.4	44.0	42.7	460.43	455.40	427.43	10.37	10.35	10.01
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	9,700	9,500	9,800	46.1	45.8	44.9	509.41	507.92	479.98	11.05	11.09	10.69
Special Industry Machinery	2,500	2,500	2,600	45.7	45.9	45.2	469.80	471.85	453.36	10.28	10.28	10.03
Nondurable Goods	48,200	48,000	48,100	40.7	40.7	40.4	378.92	378.51	358.75	9.31	9.30	8.88
Textile Mill Products	24,900	24,800	24,300	39.7	39.8	39.6	355.32	356.61	340.96	8.95	8.96	8.61
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	6,500	6,500	6,200	38.9	39.4	39.7	354.77	358.54	346.18	9.12	9.10	8.72
Knitting Mills	900	900	900	34.1	34.5	33.4	260.87	264.62	240.81	7.65	7.67	7.21
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	2,400	2,400	2,400	42.7	42.5	38.5	365.51	362.53	319.94	8.56	8.53	8.31
Apparel and Other Textile Products	4,300	4,400	5,000	39.4	39.8	37.7	258.07	261.09	242.03	6.55	6.56	6.42
Chemicals and Allied Products	5,200	5,100	5,100	43.6	43.6	42.4	523.64	523.20	486.33	12.01	12.00	11.47
Columbia												
Manufacturing	17,900	18,100	17,900	42.0	41.9	41.1	425.04	424.03	391.68	10.12	10.12	9.53
Durable Goods	7,700	7,800	8,000	40.6	40.6	40.0	380.02	379.61	365.20	9.36	9.35	9.13
Fabricated Metal Products	2,000	2,100	2,200	38.6	38.5	38.8	363.61	361.52	360.45	9.42	9.39	9.29
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	1,300	1,300	1,400	40.2	39.6	44.0	419.29	411.44	455.40	10.43	10.39	10.35
Nondurable Goods	10,200	10,300	9,900	43.1	43.0	42.0	459.45	458.38	413.70	10.66	10.66	9.85
Textile Mill Products	1,700	1,700	1,600	43.4	43.5	39.6	389.73	389.76	349.27	8.98	8.96	8.82
Apparel and Other Textile Products	1,300	1,300	1,400	40.3	40.0	39.0	253.89	252.40	212.55	6.30	6.31	5.45
Charleston												
Manufacturing	14,600	14,600	14,300	42.2	42.0	40.9	410.61	406.98	388.55	9.73	9.69	9.50
Durable Goods	8,800	8,700	8,600	43.5	43.4	41.4	429.78	428.79	400.34	9.88	9.88	9.67
Nondurable Goods	5,800	5,900	5,700	40.2	39.9	40.2	380.69	374.66	371.45	9.47	9.39	9.24
National												
Manufacturing	12,453	12,357	12,605	41.1	40.7	40.9	470.60	468.42	456.85	11.45	11.46	11.17
Durable Goods	6,870	6,840	7,012	41.5	41.2	41.2	500.08	495.64	484.51	12.05	12.03	11.76
Nondurable Goods	5,583	5,517	5,593	40.6	40.1	40.5	434.01	430.67	422.01	10.69	10.74	10.42

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in South Carolina Counties August 1992

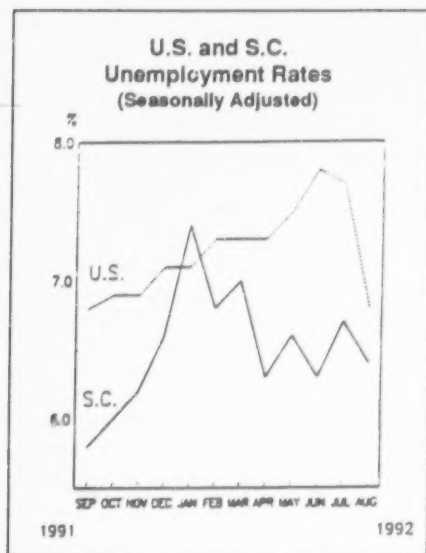
	Total Nonfarm Employment			Manufacturing Employment			Nonmanufacturing Employment		
	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
Abbeville	6,570	6,940	6,700	3,430	3,790	3,620	3,140	3,150	3,080
Aiken	59,000	58,700	59,100	24,300	24,500	23,500	34,700	34,200	35,600
Allendale	3,670	3,660	3,740	1,410	1,420	1,440	2,260	2,240	2,300
Anderson	51,600	50,500	50,800	19,200	18,400	18,600	32,400	32,100	32,200
Bamberg	4,360	4,370	4,350	1,590	1,580	1,580	2,770	2,790	2,770
Barnwell	7,200	7,160	7,010	2,850	2,870	2,650	4,350	4,290	4,360
Beaufort	35,230	35,170	35,350	960	940	940	34,270	34,230	34,410
Berkeley	25,600	25,500	26,400	6,700	6,700	6,900	18,900	18,800	19,500
Calhoun	3,370	3,340	3,300	1,650	1,630	1,580	1,720	1,710	1,720
Charleston	160,400	159,800	160,400	9,300	9,200	9,500	151,100	150,600	150,900
Cherokee	17,220	16,900	17,050	8,860	8,550	8,700	8,360	8,350	8,350
Chester	11,100	11,050	10,960	5,620	5,580	5,610	5,480	5,470	5,350
Chesterfield	13,630	13,530	13,600	8,240	8,240	8,230	5,390	5,290	5,370
Clarendon	5,930	5,900	6,060	1,410	1,390	1,420	4,520	4,510	4,640
Colleton	9,200	9,210	9,280	2,070	2,080	2,110	7,130	7,130	7,170
Darlington	20,520	20,200	20,600	7,530	7,320	7,550	12,990	12,880	13,050
Dillon	8,690	8,110	8,610	3,250	3,240	3,200	5,440	4,870	5,410
Dorchester	20,100	20,000	20,000	4,500	4,500	4,500	15,600	15,500	15,500
Edgefield	4,000	3,940	4,210	1,680	1,650	1,820	2,320	2,290	2,390
Fairfield	6,900	6,840	6,920	2,210	2,210	2,200	4,690	4,630	4,720
Florence	52,800	52,800	53,100	13,100	13,100	13,500	39,700	39,700	39,600
Georgetown	17,940	17,230	16,870	5,090	4,960	4,580	12,850	12,270	12,290
Greenville	186,600	185,100	187,000	46,000	45,800	46,500	140,600	139,300	140,500
Greenwood	27,750	27,680	27,630	10,640	10,620	10,600	17,110	17,060	17,030
Hampton	4,920	5,110	5,090	1,520	1,510	1,550	3,400	3,600	3,540
Horry	71,350	71,420	70,290	6,130	6,060	5,870	65,220	65,360	64,420
Jasper	3,540	3,420	3,580	420	420	420	3,120	3,000	3,160
Kershaw	16,080	16,150	16,320	5,560	5,610	5,710	10,520	10,540	10,610
Lancaster	17,770	17,800	18,010	7,100	7,100	7,340	10,670	10,700	10,670
Laurens	19,890	19,710	19,940	7,370	7,290	7,280	12,520	12,420	12,660
Lee	3,430	3,250	3,450	1,250	1,260	1,250	2,180	1,990	2,200
Lexington	58,700	59,000	60,300	12,100	12,200	12,600	46,600	46,800	47,700
McCormick	2,060	2,050	2,100	600	610	610	1,460	1,440	1,490
Marion	11,830	11,560	11,860	5,410	5,080	5,380	6,420	6,480	6,480
Marlboro	7,960	7,760	8,270	3,630	3,490	3,760	4,330	4,270	4,510
Newberry	11,170	11,060	11,300	4,720	4,760	5,050	6,450	6,300	6,250
Oconee	22,950	22,850	22,950	10,150	10,170	10,190	12,800	12,680	12,760
Orangeburg	29,200	27,470	29,090	9,250	7,610	9,380	19,950	19,860	19,710
Pickens	34,100	34,000	34,300	11,200	11,200	11,300	22,900	22,800	23,000
Richland	176,600	177,800	177,500	13,700	13,800	14,200	162,900	164,000	163,300
Saluda	3,960	4,010	3,930	1,910	1,990	1,880	2,050	2,020	2,050
Spartanburg	103,500	102,900	103,700	36,500	36,200	36,800	67,000	66,700	66,900
Sumter	34,530	33,760	33,600	9,940	9,460	9,210	24,590	24,300	24,390
Union	9,790	9,820	9,730	5,380	5,370	5,340	4,410	4,450	4,390
Williamsburg	10,490	10,420	10,590	5,010	4,980	5,070	5,480	5,440	5,520
York	48,100	46,900	48,100	13,400	13,400	13,800	34,700	33,500	34,300

Female Employment in South Carolina August 1992

	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Net Change From:	
				July 1992	Aug 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	723,800	720,700	728,900	+3,100	-5,100
Total Private	560,900	558,800	566,600	+2,100	-5,700
Construction	6,700	6,600	7,700	+100	-1,000
Manufacturing	147,500	146,300	150,000	+1,200	-2,500
Durable Goods	41,700	40,400	42,700	+1,300	-1,000
Lumber and Wood Products	2,100	2,100	2,200	0	-100
Fabricated Metal Products	3,500	3,200	3,400	+300	+100
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	10,700	10,000	11,000	+700	-300
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	11,200	11,000	11,800	+200	-600
Instruments and Related Products	3,300	3,300	3,400	0	-100
Nondurable Goods	105,800	105,900	107,300	-100	-1,500
Food and Kindred Products	5,700	5,700	5,500	0	+200
Textile Mill Products	40,300	40,100	41,000	+200	-700
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	9,500	9,500	10,200	0	-700
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	10,000	10,000	10,200	0	-200
Knitting Mills	5,200	5,100	5,100	+100	+100
Apparel and Other Textile Products	29,000	29,300	30,300	-300	-1,300
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	8,500	8,600	8,400	-100	+100
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	9,300	9,400	10,200	-100	-900
Paper and Allied Products	3,900	3,900	3,900	0	0
Printing and Publishing	4,700	4,700	4,700	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	11,300	11,300	10,900	0	+400
Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products	10,700	10,700	10,800	0	-100
Transportation and Public Utilities	15,900	15,800	16,100	+100	-200
Communications	5,900	5,900	6,100	0	-200
Wholesale and Retail Trade	170,300	169,500	175,500	+800	-5,200
Wholesale Trade	15,700	15,700	16,100	0	-400
Wholesale Trade—Durable Goods	7,300	7,200	7,600	0	-300
Wholesale Trade—Nondurable Goods	8,400	8,400	8,500	0	-100
Retail Trade	154,600	153,800	159,400	+800	-4,800
General Merchandise Stores	24,700	24,300	25,400	+400	-700
Food Stores	25,800	25,700	25,100	+100	+700
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	42,800	43,400	44,000	-600	-1,200
Insurance Carriers	8,400	8,400	8,400	0	0
Services	177,600	177,100	173,200	+500	+4,400
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	15,400	15,400	16,500	0	-1,100
Health Services	54,800	54,500	52,800	+300	+2,000
Hospitals	19,200	19,200	18,300	0	+900
Educational Services	15,200	15,100	14,700	+100	+500
Total Government	162,900	161,900	162,300	+1,000	+600
Total Federal Government	12,100	12,100	12,900	0	+800
Total State and Local Government	150,800	149,800	149,400	+1,000	+1,400
Total State Government	61,000	60,700	60,900	+300	+100
State Government Education	18,200	17,900	18,600	+300	-400
Other State Government	42,800	42,800	42,300	0	+500
Total Local Government	89,800	89,100	88,500	+700	+1,300
Local Government Education	50,000	48,900	50,400	+1,100	-400
Other Local Government	39,800	40,200	38,100	-400	+1,700



National News...



Unemployment Rate Holds Steady...The national unemployment rate dropped to 7.6% in August. Total employment was at 117.7 million, up from the August, 1991 level of 116.5 million. The number of unemployed persons was about the same at 9.7 million, but was 13.8% above August, 1991.

Nonfarm Employment Down Slightly...In August, the count of nonfarm payroll jobs decreased 83,000 despite further gains in local government, reflecting the federally-funded summer youth job programs. Manufacturing was hit the hardest, falling by 91,000 jobs. Losses in industrial machinery, electronic equipment, transportation equipment and instruments were part of longer-term cutbacks. Other losses, such as those in apparel and food processing, followed unusually large increases in July. Retail trade and construction were also weak in August. The service industry added only 22,000 jobs, well below the average monthly gain of 50,000 over the past year.

Inflation Rises 0.3%...Inflation edged up 0.3% in August. The gain put the Consumer Price Index (All Urban Consumers) at 140.9, which was 3.1% above the August, 1991 level. Food prices were the main contributor to the rise as they climbed 0.7%, their largest increase since February, 1990. Higher fruit and vegetable prices were largely responsible for the surge because of poor growing conditions in South America.

Producer Prices Up Slightly...The Producer Price Index (PPI) edged up 0.1% in August, the same as in July. The tiny price increase came despite a 0.7% jump in food prices, which was led by a steep rise in the cost of vegetables. Wholesale prices were held down mainly by a 5.6% drop in tobacco prices, as well as declines in prices of fuel oil and children's wear. Producers have been unable to make significant mark-ups on their goods because demand is weak.

Sales Slide 0.5%...A big slump in the sales of durable goods helped to push retail sales down 0.5% to \$159.7 billion. Among sales of durable goods, those related to the housing market were especially weak. Sales of building materials fell 2.7%, as did furniture sales. Auto sales were off 1.1%, and lower prices led to a 2% drop in gasoline sales. Overall, sales of durable goods were down 1.6%.

Industrial Output Down...In August, industrial production sank 0.5 percentage point to 108.6% of the 1987 average, evidence of continuing economic stagnation. Hurricane Andrew and a General Motors strike caused most of the drop. Excluding these two unusual events, industrial production still slipped an estimated 0.3%, with material production and nondurable goods falling 0.9% and 0.7%, respectively. Industry operated at 78.5% of capacity in August, its lowest rate in six months. The reduction was attributed to a sizable drop in production among a widespread group of basic industries, including paper, textiles, lumber and steel.

Consumer Confidence Falls...The Consumer Confidence Index slid 3.2 points to 58.0 in August, following a 11.4-point plunge in July. According to the Conference Board, an average show of optimism is between 90 and 100 points (1985=100). The bleak job market, along with concern over family income, heavily influenced consumers, as they felt less secure in their expectations for the months ahead.

U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI)

All Urban Consumers

Base Year 1982-1984=100.0

	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991
All Items	140.9	140.5	136.6

U.S. Producer Price Index (PPI)

Base Year 1982=100.0

	Aug 1992	July 1992	Aug 1991	Percent Change to Aug 1992 from 1991
Finished Goods	123.5	123.7	121.5	



Technical Notes

South Carolina's Employment Trends is prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The current month's estimates are preliminary while all previous data are subject to revision. Industries are classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987. All estimates are projected from a first quarter 1991 benchmark.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Therefore, these data are not strictly comparable with the labor force data which represent persons by place of residence. Excluded from wage and salary estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees, and unpaid family workers. A small percentage of wage and salary workers cannot be allocated to specific counties because of the nature of their jobs. Therefore, county data will not add to state totals.

Production worker estimates include full- and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Labor force data are adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark, and represent employment and unemployment by place of residence. These data are not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, and self-employed. The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing total unemployment by the labor force, and is expressed as a percent. Because of the conceptual differences stated above, total employment may in some instances be lower than nonagricultural wage and salary employment.



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